

Message Text

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53

ACTION CU-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 USIA-12 /023 W

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R 201040Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2186

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, SO

SUBJ: POSSIBLE IV GRANT--WEIRAH

REF: STATE 177891; MOGADISCIO 1216

1. DR. MUHAMED YUSAF WEIRAH IS CURRENTLY GSDR SECSTATE FOR FINANCE (SINCE AUGUST, 1971). WAS PREVIOUSLY SECRETARY OF ECON COMMISSION ON NATIONALIZED FIRMS (1971) AND PRIOR TO THAT SERVED AS ADVISOR TO SUPREME REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL (SRC), WITH OFFICES IN PRESIDENCY.

2. WE BELIEVE WEIRAH WAS BORN IN 1943 OR 1944. IS FROM MIGIUR-TINIA, EDUCATED AT UNIV ZTORINO IN ITALY. IS ECONOMIST WITH EXCELLENT ITALIAN AND FAIR ENGLISH. WE HAVE NO INFO ON HIS MARITAL SITUATION.

3. WEIRAH'S POLITICAL VIEWS ARE REPORTEDLY LEFT-OF-CENTER. HE IS CONSIDERED INTELLIGENT, WITH CONSIDERABLE INTELLECTUAL CURIOSITY. HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT DOGMATIC IN HIS VIEWS ON CESSATION OF US AID TO SOMALIA, WHICH HE EVIDENTLY REGARDS AS A POLITICAL DECISION.

4. WE BELIEVE THAT WEIRAH SHOULD MEET WITH APPROPRIATELY HIGH LEVEL USG OFFICIALS. WE SHOULD ALSO KEEP IN MIND AMB ADDOU'S RECOMMENDATION TO AMBASSADOR KIRK ON JULY 28 THAT GSDR SECRETARIES SHOULD BE INVITED BY THEIR OPPOSITE NUMBER IN THE USG IN ORDER TO JUSTIFY THE VISIT AND GIVE IT A GOVT-TO-GOVT CON-

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NOTATION.

5. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE ULTIMATE SUCCESS OF HIS VISIT, BOTH FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW AND HIS OWN, WOULD DEPEND LARGELY UPON THE INTELLECTUAL CHALLENGES WE COULD PROVIDE. IN THAT REGARD, MENTAL RATHER THAN CEREMONIAL FARE SHOULD BE THE OBJECT. THE SUGGESTIONS GIVEN IN PARA 2 REFTEL SHOULD BE CONSIDERED, AS SHOULD MEETINGS WITH OUR OWN ECONOMISTS, PERHAPS IN COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS, IN OMB, OR PERHAPS EVEN AT BROOKINGS.

6. DEPT HAS HOWEVER BETTER APPRECIATION OF AVAILABLE PROGRAMMING POSSIBILITIES THAN WE. AMB ADDOU MAY HAVE SOME THOUGHTS ON THE SUBJECT AS WELL.
HAMRICK

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